GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:544
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2008
BROADBAND SERVICE FOR RURAL AREAS
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Naik Shri Shripad Yasso

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the funds earmarked for subsidising the infrastructure cost to establish broadband connectivity in rural and remote areas in the Eleventh Plan Period; and

(b) the targets set for expansion of broadband services in the rural areas during this year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PART (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.544 FOR 5TH MAY, 2008 REGARDING BROADBAND SERVICE FOR RURAL AREAS

(a) An amount of about Rs. 2100 crores has been earmarked for establishing broadband connectivity in rural and remote areas in the Eleventh Plan period.

(b) The targets set for expansion of broadband services in the rural areas during this year,inter-alia, are:

(i) Broadband coverage in all District and block Headquarters.

(ii) Coverage of 80% towns/cities and more than 1 lakh villages.

(iii) Broadband connectivity in around 25,576 rural exchanges.